



April 2, 2024

Colleagues,

Survey

As we strive to foster an environment that nurtures growth and excellence, your input becomes invaluable. With this in mind, I am reaching out to invite each and every one of you to participate in a confidential survey aimed at gaining deeper insights into the climate and culture of our institution. Your honest feedback will provide critical perspectives that will aid in shaping the future direction of our district. Rest assured, your responses will remain anonymous, allowing you to express your thoughts openly and candidly. Your participation is pivotal in ensuring that our college continues to flourish as an inclusive, supportive, and thriving community. Let your voices be heard as we work together towards a brighter future. You will see an email with the survey link coming from our Institutional Research department in the coming days.



Following the completion of the survey, the aggregated results will be shared with the entire college community, fostering transparency and accountability. Additionally, to delve deeper into the findings and ensure a comprehensive understanding, we will organize focus groups at each of our campuses. These sessions will provide an opportunity for meaningful dialogue, enabling us to delve into specific areas of interest, address concerns, and collectively brainstorm potential solutions. Your active participation in these focus groups will be instrumental in refining our strategies and initiatives to better serve the needs of our diverse community. Together, through open communication and collaboration, we can continue to build a college environment that empowers every member to thrive.

Budget

As we navigate through these challenging times, it's imperative to acknowledge the fiscal realities ahead of us. While our institution has been resilient in the face of adversity, we must recognize that dipping into our reserves is not a sustainable solution. Each dollar spent from our reserves should be treated with utmost caution, understanding that the current budgetary constraints are not transient but rather likely to persist over the next three years. Moreover, the road to restoring our funding levels may extend over a longer horizon, spanning six to seven years.



In light of these projections, I urge each department to exercise prudence when crafting their budgets. While we don't foresee this as a period of deep budget cuts, it's incumbent upon us to adopt a conservative approach. Let us view this as an opportunity to explore alternative revenue streams. Whether it be through federal, state, or local grants, or identifying ancillary sources of income, we must collectively brainstorm and pursue avenues to bolster our financial stability.

I invite all of you to contribute to this endeavor. If you have ideas for additional revenue streams or innovative ways to trim our budget without sacrificing our mission, please don't hesitate to share them. Your insights and collaboration will be instrumental as we navigate these uncertain waters together. Please send your suggestions via email (chancelloroffice@kccd.edu), and let's work hand in hand to safeguard the future of our institution.

Accreditation

I want to express my sincere gratitude for the teams at each of our colleges and your unwavering dedication and diligent efforts in preparing the self-evaluation reports for our upcoming accreditation process. Accreditation is paramount to the success and credibility of our institutions and it serves as a testament to our commitment to providing high-quality education and ensures that our degrees and certificates are recognized and respected. Your commitment to excellence and thoroughness through this process have not gone unnoticed. Accreditation is paramount to the success and credibility of our institutions, and your active participation is crucial in ensuring we meet the highest standards of educational quality. Together, we will continue to uphold the integrity and reputation of the Kern Community College District.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication and commitment to our district.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Bloomberg
Chancellor



